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TOBACCO INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTES TO SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PROJECTS

DON MOZLEY: "A medical man retained by the tobacco industry reports some progress toward solving the question of whether cigarettes and cancer are related. Dr. Robert Hockett, Associate Scientific Director of the Tobacco Industry Research Committee, is in San Francisco for the American Public Health Association convention. He was asked about late developments in research, and he gave this comment to KCBS News:"

HOCKETT: (ON TAPE) "There have been a great many recent developments. Some of these are our own program, and some of them are out of work by other people in various parts of the world. It seems to me that in general the effects of these new observations is to rather decrease the evidence that tobacco is any kind of a primary or really important factor in the cancer picture.

"For example, there have been several reports lately from different parts of the world to the effect that lung cancers may arrive out of old tubercular scars. I'm rather impressed by the fact that these come, not from just one place but from many places. And we know, of course, that nowadays tuberculosis is generally cured or arrested by some of the new drugs, and that people with healed lesions live to a much greater age than they used to."

MOZLEY: "Well now, is the industry trying to literally prove its case, or is it doing research to help the medical problem of cancer generally?"

HOCKETT: "Well, you see, the industry, while they provide the funds, has turned over this entire fund to an advisory board of physicians and scientists. And their only directive to these men is to study all angles of the question with relation between tobacco and human health. So it's on a very broad basis. So that the purpose of our board of independent scientists is just to get the facts, however these may turn out." (END TAPE)

MOZLEY: "That was Dr. Robert Hockett of the Tobacco Industry's Reseach Committee."

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